

THE CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of providing compensation comparison data comprising:
receiving compensation data from a plurality of sources;
determining whether the received data is reliable;
marking each piece of received data as reliable or unreliable;
authenticating each piece of received data marked as unreliable; and
calculating an average of the authenticated data.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of receiving compensation data comprises receiving data relating to at least one of current base salary and estimated cash bonus.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of determining reliability of the received data comprises determining whether the received data falls within one standard deviation from the average.
4. The method of claim 1 further comprising spot-checking the reliable data for authenticity.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of authenticating comprises querying persons who provided the compensation data or receiving one or more authenticating documents.
6. The method of claim 5 wherein the authenticating documents include a pay stub.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein the data are received only from individual users.

8. A computer system for providing compensation comparison data, wherein the system includes a server computer configured to:

- receive compensation data from a plurality of sources;
- determine whether the received data is reliable;
- mark each piece of received data as reliable or unreliable;
- authenticate each piece of received data marked as unreliable; and
- calculate an average of the authenticated data.

9. The system of claim 8 wherein the server computer is further configured to receive data relating to at least one of current base salary and estimated cash bonus.

10. The system of claim 8 wherein the server computer is further configured to determine whether the received data falls within one standard deviation from the average.

11. The system of claim 8 wherein the server computer is further configured to spot-check the reliable data for authenticity.

12. The system of claim 8 wherein the server computer is further configured to receive one or more authenticating documents.

13. The system of claim 12 wherein the authenticating documents include a pay stub.

14. The system of claim 8 wherein the server computer is further configured to receive the data only from individual users.